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CP Indoctrination Tactics

- Members of the CP of Czechoslovakia, of whom the party requires attendance at indoctrination courses, often turn in their party cards and ask to be crossed off party lists. They do this because it is disagreeable to them to have to parrot the personal Communist opinions which their teachers try to hammer into them. The teachers in the indoctrination program are very bad, according to several comrades whose job it is to control and inspect the lectures of individual teachers. The students are forced to listen to "insane nonsense". The teachers deliver material which is not correct even from a Marxist standpoint.
- On orders from the Central Committee of the CP, the editorial offices of every daily newspaper must name several directing editors. These are convinced Communists who watch over the others. The explanation given for this action was that the editor-in-chief cannot take care of everything. Every article must be discussed before it is written. It thus becomes a collective product and not the opinion of an individual. Some editors are known as "technical helpers". These are people who after the February 1948 coup were not thrown out but who are nevertheless not trusted. These technical helpers are not allowed to write articles but are only to see that the typesetters print properly the statements of leading politicians and so on. Such helpers at the Brno Lidovky/Lidove Noviny? are Nachen and Rejzek.
- The CP is holding a series of meetings of committee of individual organizations. These meetings are held behind locked doors and are to discuss the possible conflict between the East and the West and to issue orders as to how to proceed in the event armed conflict takes place. The mood at these meetings is very depressed; no one wants to fight.
- In all the schools in Czechoslovakia, both the lower ones and those of advanced education, programs are being introduced to indoctrinate the youth in Communist ideology. This is to include both a devotion to the Communist program within the country and a hatred of the class enemy internally and unfriendly capitalistic countries externally.

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5. In order to complete this indoctrination, the party uses the Ministry of Education on the one hand and the student organizations on the other. All the rectorates of the individual universities, technical schools, and other schools of higher learning are under the Ministry of Education. They receive official orders from the Ministry dictating the content of the studies to be followed in that individual school. All studies in all branches of learning in the schools of higher education have been re-made by the Communists, down to the smallest detail. All specialized subjects are to be taught by official order on the scientific and philosophic basis of Communist ideology, of dialectics and historical materialism. The studies in all fields have been supplemented with studies of the progress in similar fields in the USSR. Thus law students are required to study the law of the USSR, agricultural students study the situation in Soviet agriculture, and philosophy students are required to study the current Soviet philosophy. For the winter term 1949-50, several other arrangements have been made. Firstly, attendance at all lectures is now required. Attendance is not registered by lists but by specially assigned students. A student must attend 80% of his classes in order to be allowed into the examination. Further, a number of schools have divided the students into classes or groups of about 20 students each which have a leader and an ideological referent and a work referent. The leader of the circle is responsible for seeing to it that there are six hours of meetings held at which the material from the lectures is discussed in the form of debates. This is a new technique for preparation for examinations. The ideological adviser is responsible for the ideological side of the discussions and of the studies of the circle leads political discussions and introduces the required ideological material. The work adviser is responsible for seeing that the circle appears at all group functions, whether work brigades or required celebrations. These positions were to be filled by "progressive" students who could be relied upon to carry out the policies of the new course of study, but since there is a very small number of these so-called progressive students, non-progressive students have been taken for these jobs; the result is that little of the work of these circles is actually done.
6. In addition to the functions of the Ministry of Education, the Communist Party uses the student organizations, or rather their representatives in the student organizations, to carry out their programs of indoctrination. The responsibility for reeducating a new type of collective student has been entrusted to these student organizations. This type of student is to take the place of the old individualistic student who is now in disrepute. This is done in a number of ways, of which the so-called Competition of Youthful Creativeness for 1950 is one of the most important.
7. The Communists have united the academic offices with the student organizations. Both groups receive orders from the Party. Though apparently different, the orders seem to have the same purpose, which is the formation of the new type of so-called progressive student. Although this program is well organized, the chances for its success are not great. It must meet with the resistance of the students which is shown either by ignoring the innovations brought by it or by disinterest and even by ridiculing them. After several months, it is already possible to say that the success of these new reforms is very problematical.

Propaganda

8. The leaders of the Czechoslovak State lose no opportunity to tell the citizens how well they live under Communist leadership. The last such expression was made by Minister Cepicka before the National Assembly on 7 Dec 49. It is remarkable that he should have made this speech since it has so little to do with the legal order and he is the Minister of Justice. Among other things the Minister pointed out the average wage of a worker in February 1946 was 13.18 crowns, which was 317.4% of the level of March 1939. In June 1949 the average worker was 19.13 crowns or 462.1% of the level of March 1939. The average real wage, said the Minister, had increased by more than 60% over the pre-war level. In addition to this, cheap food in factory kitchens, recreation, national insurance and other benefits total about 30% of the average wage which further increases the real value of wages. Not only have workers profited by this system, agricultural workers have also been given the opportunity to found families on their own property. The Minister used his figures to prove that the living standard was rising and that the significance of the family was being made firmer.

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9. Actually, however, the food supplied in factory kitchens and national insurance have a relatively small effect on the living standard. Minister Cepicka, despite his own statement, did not tell anything about the real wages of workers today. The index of wages is no longer published but by using old statistics it is possible to determine the indices of wages and prices. It seems that the index of workers' wages which the Minister mentioned is correct. No economist would dispute the fact that wages are at present at 462.1% of pre-war wages, but this indicates nothing more than inflation. But he was unable to introduce any proof of his statement that the real value of wages had increased by 60% over the pre-war level. It is easy enough to determine the real value of wages by comparing the index of wages with the index of prices. The difficulty comes from the fact that no index of prices is published and so it is possible to conclude such an index only from approximate data. By using a pre-war price index and comparing prices with those of today, it is possible to arrive at an approximate comparison of these two price levels. This is done in the pages of tables which appear below. The conclusions to be drawn from these indexes are: that the price of foods is 737% that of pre-war and the price of textiles and shoes 873% the pre-war level. So that the over-all price index is 776% of the pre-war price level. In general it is possible to say that prices are about eight times those of pre-war. In computing the table, those items which were not supplied in sufficient quantity by the rations today were presumed to be made up from the free market in order that consumption might be at the same level as it was before the war. For the purposes of this table, for example, it is expected that everyone will buy socks, stockings, shoes and material for clothing on the rations and that he will buy shirts on the free market. Since it is difficult to include in the index various other things such as amusement, kitchen equipment, wine and so on, the index appears to be smaller than it really is. The Communist state maintains the basic foods at a low price level and other things are allowed to increase enormously. If we included in the index still other domestic equipment, it would certainly rise to one thousand or more. In spite of Minister Cepicka, we can say on the basis of our index that the living standard of the workers has been reduced to one half of what it was before the war. It is not significant that workers receive larger rations, because the other members of their families do not receive these rations themselves and so if they are unable actually to increase the living standards, the Communist leaders will find it necessary to convince people by words that their living standard is actually higher than it was. The reasons why the living standard is low and does not rise are several: (a) the bad leadership of factories and of economic affairs in general. The managers of industry are selected according to their political alignment, they know their Marxism and Leninism, or at least they know how to listen to it, but they do not know how to run the factories. (b) the extensive political and bureaucratic apparatus. The State budget is enormous, large sums are allotted to the Ministry of the Interior, which has an extensive police apparatus. Further, many people are employed in the Central Trade Union Council and the Communist Party. Further, employees are required to attend political indoctrination lasting an average of at least 14 days. All of this implies considerable economic difficulties. (c) Economic exploitation by the Soviet Union. The Czechoslovak economy is required to help with the reconstruction of the Soviet Union and of the other People's Democracies. These expenses cannot be reduced under presently existing conditions and therefore the Citizens of Czechoslovakia cannot expect any fundamental improvements in their situation. The following table compares 1937 prices with those at the end of 1949, in crowns:

Goods	1937			1949		
	Quantity	@	Total Price	Source	@	Total Price
Beef	1 kg	16	16	Ration, $\frac{1}{2}$ kg	60	30
				Free market, $\frac{1}{2}$ kg	150	75
Pork	1 kg	20	20	Ration, 1 kg	80	80
				Free market	200	--
Lard	1 kg	20	20	Ration, 100 gm	100	10
				Free market, 900 gm	450	405
Butter	$\frac{1}{2}$ kg	20	10	Ration, 300 gm	80	24
				Free market, 200 gm	300	60
Potatoes	7 kg	1	7	Free market, 7 kg	3	21

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1937				1949			
Goods	Quantity	@	Total Price	Source	@	Total Price	
Dark bread	12 kg	2	24	Free market, 12 kg	5	60	
White bread	1 kg	4	4	One white roll, 100 gm	13	13	
"Smooth" flour	4 kg	1	4	Free market, 4 kg	7.50	30	
Sugar	2 kg	6	12	Rationed, 1½ kg	15	22	
				Free market, ½ kg	200	50	
Eggs	20	0.50	10	Rationed, 4	3	12	
				Free market, 16	10	160	
Milk	10 liters	1.50	15	Rationed, 2½ liters	4.50	11	
				Free market, 7½ liters	10	75	
Beer	6 liters	3	18	Free market, 6 liters	7	42	
Food, Total			160			1,180	
Shirt	½	36	18	Rationed	200	--	
				Free market	600	600	[sic]
Wool material	¼ m	100	25	Rationed	500	125	
Socks	1	10	10	Rationed	25	25	
Shoes	1/6 pr	60	10	Rationed	600	100	
Textiles and Shoes, total			63			550	
TOTAL			223			1,730	

CP Efforts to Infiltrate Resistance Groups

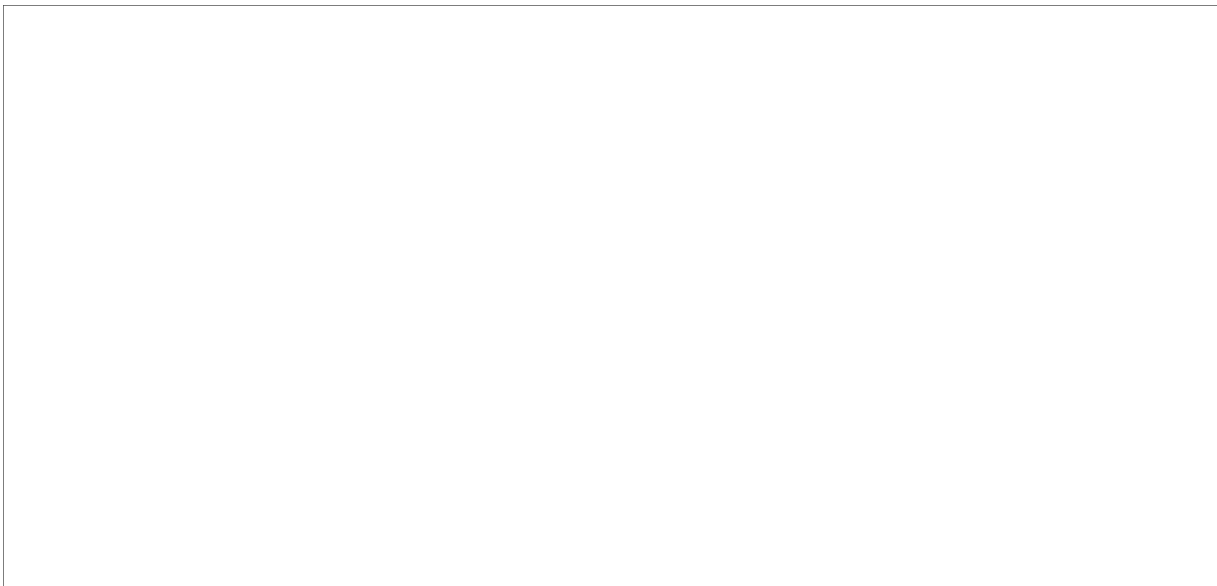
10. The State Security organs are trying to infiltrate their people into all resistance groups in Czechoslovakia. Organs in Brno are preparing new lists of people to be arrested. Political affairs in Jachymov are handled by the Soviet police. At the beginning of November 1949, all appeals concerning changes in the extent of the forced labor camps were refused.
11. The SNB has a very confidential program for appointments to that service. A larger number of men is to be accepted, since the effort to recruit women has been a failure. Those accepted will be only those who have been thoroughly cleared and are fully reliable supporters of the regime. These new members of the SNB are to replace those who were in this organization before 1945.
12. Reliable members of the CP are being indoctrinated in police barracks and after they have finished this course they are assigned to various important positions.
13. Dr Kozacek, a well-known Brno lawyer, is in a forced labor camp. This is nothing extraordinary, except that Dr Kozacek was a functionary of the "Moravian Slovak Circle" and had at home an extensive library of various song books. Recently, a Communist accompanied by members of the SNB visited his house and stole his entire library.
14. A slaughterhouse employee in Valasske Mezirici was investigated by a criminal Committee for having slaughtered a pig illegally. During this investigation, three ribs were broken so he had to go to a hospital immediately after he was released.

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15. A railroad accident occurred recently in Lipnik. An express train ran into a freight train. [redacted] the engineer of the freight train, a shockworker, was to blame for the accident. Twenty lives were lost in this accident and the engineer went mad after it. Only a small notice was to be printed in the newspapers concerning the happening. 50X1-HUM



18. In Mlasecin, near Stechovice, there is a region which is surrounded by barbed wire. Over eight thousand people are to be employed there and it is said that they are to mine uranium. Posters placed around this region state that whoever spreads false information will be prosecuted.

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